ROOTED

ADVENT EDITION

Promise & Fulfillment

WEEK ONE

AN ADVENT JOURNEY
THROUGH SCRIPTURE



LIFEPOINT
CHURCH

Welcome to Advent

Advent is a season of waiting and expectation. For generations, the people of God waited for the fulfillment of His promise. They listened to the prophets, prayed for deliverance, and looked forward to the coming Messiah. Through generations of waiting, one hope remained: God was coming to rescue His people! Then, in the quietness of Bethlehem, the waiting gave way to fulfillment. Jesus was born. The promised Savior had come.

This Advent season, we are doing a special Rooted Bible Reading plan that will take us through that story. We will journey from some of the earliest promises in the Old Testament to their fulfillment in Jesus Christ.

Promise & Fulfillment Readings

Each day, we will read two passages of Scripture. The first will come from the Old Testament, where we will encounter a promise, prophecy, or expectation of what God would one day do. Then we will turn to the New Testament and see how those hopes and promises point us toward Jesus.

Our hope is that these readings will help you see Christmas as more than the familiar story of Mary, Joseph, shepherds, angels, and a manger. Christmas is part of a much bigger story - a story God had been unfolding for generations. When we understand the promise, we begin to appreciate the fulfillment in a deeper way. The city of Bethlehem will begin to mean more when we have heard the prophets. In the same way, the angels' announcement that a Savior had been born becomes even more powerful when we realize how long God's people had been waiting.

Why Advent?

Christmas can be one of the busiest times of the year. There are gifts to buy, gatherings to attend, meals to prepare, decorations to put up, and plenty of things competing for our attention. If we are not careful, we can make it all the way through Christmas without spending much time slowing down and reflecting on Jesus. That's part of the gift of Advent. Advent invites us to slow down, remember God's faithfulness, and prepare our hearts again for Christ.

This study isn't simply about learning more information. Each day's reading includes a little background to help us understand the passages, along with questions to help us reflect on what we're reading. As you work through them, don't just ask, What does this passage mean? Take time to also ask, What might God be saying to me through His Word? Then, each day will end with a short personal prayer. Pray it slowly and make the words your own. There is no need to rush. Give God room to speak to you through His Word.

Learning to Wait Again

One of the gifts of Advent is that it teaches us how to wait with hope. Israel waited generations for the Messiah, and God was faithful to His promise. Jesus came. But we are still people who wait. We wait for answers to prayer, for direction, for healing, for relationships to be restored, and for God to move in situations that still feel unfinished. Ultimately, we wait for the day when Christ will come again and make all things new.

As we read these promises and see how God fulfilled them in Jesus, our prayer is that you will be reminded that the God who was faithful then is still faithful now. So, from the first Sunday of Advent through Christmas Day, let's walk through this story together. Take your time. Read the passages. Sit with the questions. Pray honestly, and throughout this Advent season, may we keep turning our hearts toward Jesus - the One who was promised and the One who has come.



DAY 1 | The First Promise of Redemption

PROMISE Genesis 3:14–15

FULFILLMENT Galatians 4:4–5; 1 John 3:8

Background

Advent begins in an unexpected place - not in Bethlehem, but in Eden. Genesis 3 tells the story of humanity's rebellion against God and the brokenness that entered God's good creation because of sin. Yet remarkably, judgment is not God's only word. Right in the middle of humanity's failure, God speaks a word of hope. God tells the serpent that one day an offspring of the woman would crush the serpent's head, even though the serpent would strike his heel. Christians have historically seen in this passage the first glimpse of the gospel: evil will wound, but it will not have the final word.

The rest of Scripture unfolds the question raised here: Who will this promised deliverer be? The New Testament points us toward Jesus. Paul tells us that "when the set time had fully come," God sent his Son, "born of a woman," to redeem us - and 1 John describes Jesus' mission plainly: the Son of God appeared to destroy the works of the devil.

Before there was a manger, a star, shepherds, or wise men, there was a promise. Advent reminds us that Jesus was not God's last-minute response to a broken world. From the beginning, God was already working toward redemption.

Reflection Questions

1. What does Genesis 3:15 reveal about God's response to humanity's sin and brokenness?
2. What connections do you see between the promise in Genesis and the descriptions of Jesus in Galatians 4 and 1 John 3?
3. Why do you think Scripture's story of redemption begins with a promise rather than an immediate solution?
4. Where in my life am I tempted to believe that brokenness, sin, disappointment, or darkness will have the final word?
5. As I begin Advent, what would it look like for me to trust again that God is at work even when I cannot yet see the fulfillment of what He has promised?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, as I begin this Advent journey, remind me that You have been pursuing and redeeming Your creation from the beginning. When I see brokenness around me and within me, help me remember that darkness does not have the final word. Jesus, teach me to place my hope in You and to trust that You are still at work, even when I cannot yet see what You are doing. Prepare my heart to receive You again this Advent. Amen.

DAY 2 | Blessing for All Nations

PROMISE Genesis 12:1–3

FULFILLMENT Matthew 1:1; Galatians 3:14–16

Background

After the fall of humanity in Genesis 3, the Bible tells the story of a world increasingly marked by sin, division, and rebellion against God. By Genesis 11, humanity has gathered at Babel, seeking to make a name for themselves rather than trusting in God. The result is confusion and scattering. But in Genesis 12, the story takes a remarkable turn. God calls one man, Abram, and makes him an extraordinary promise. God will make him into a great nation, bless him, and make his name great. But the promise doesn't end with Abraham. God declares that all people on earth will be blessed through him.

What's remarkable about this promise is that God chooses one family with the intention of blessing the entire world. Abraham doesn't know where God will lead him or how these promises will unfold. He simply receives God's invitation to trust Him and go. Through Abraham's descendants, God begins unfolding His plan of redemption. What started as a promise to one man would eventually become good news for every nation.

Centuries later, Matthew opens his Gospel with a seemingly simple introduction: "Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham." Those words are significant. Matthew wants us to understand that Jesus is not disconnected from the story

of Israel. He is the fulfillment of the promises God made generations earlier. Paul makes this connection even clearer in Galatians 3, explaining that the blessing promised to Abraham comes to the Gentiles through Jesus Christ. The promise was never meant for Israel alone. Through Jesus, people from every nation and background are invited to receive God's blessing through faith.

Advent reminds us that God's plan of salvation has always been bigger than one person, one family, or one nation. When we celebrate the birth of Jesus, we celebrate the arrival of the One through whom God's ancient promise is being fulfilled. The child born in Bethlehem came not simply to bless a select few, but to bring the hope of redemption to the whole world. And just as Abraham was blessed to become a blessing, those who follow Jesus are invited to share His love and hope with others.

Reflection Questions

1. What does God's promise to Abraham in Genesis 12:1–3 reveal about His heart and His intentions for the world?
2. Why do you think Matthew begins his Gospel by identifying Jesus as the "son of Abraham"? How does Galatians 3 help us understand the significance of that connection?
3. Abraham was called to trust God without knowing exactly where the journey would lead. What can his response teach us about faith and obedience?

4. God's blessing to Abraham was never intended to stop with Abraham. In what ways might I be tempted to keep God's blessings to myself rather than share them with others?

5. As I prepare my heart for Christmas, how can I become more intentional about sharing the hope, love, and blessing of Jesus with people around me?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You that Your love and plan of redemption have always extended to the whole world. Through Abraham, You promised a blessing for all nations, and through Jesus, You have opened the way for us to receive that blessing. Help me to trust Your promises even when I cannot see how they will unfold. Remind me that the blessings I have received are not meant to end with me. As I prepare for Christmas, open my eyes to the people around me who need Your love, grace, and hope. May my life become a reflection of the blessing You have given us through Jesus Christ. Amen.



DAY 3 | The Promised Son

PROMISE Genesis 22:15–18

FULFILLMENT Matthew 1:1–2; Acts 3:25–26

Background

God had promised Abraham that he would become the father of a great nation and that through his descendants, all the nations of the earth would be blessed. But that promise seemed almost impossible. Abraham and Sarah were well beyond the age of having children, and for years they waited for God to fulfill His word. Then, against all odds, Isaac was born. He was the son they had waited for, the living reminder that God keeps His promises.

But in Genesis 22, Abraham faces an unimaginable test. God asks him to offer Isaac, the very son through whom the promise was supposed to continue. Abraham obeys, trusting that God would somehow remain faithful to His word. At the last moment, God stops Abraham and provides a ram to be sacrificed in Isaac's place. Following this moment, God reaffirms His covenant, promising that Abraham's descendants will multiply and that through his offspring, all nations on earth will be blessed. The promise of God would continue through the son He had provided.

Generations later, Matthew begins his Gospel by tracing the family line of Jesus back through Abraham and Isaac. This is more than a record of ancestry. Matthew is showing us that the

promises God made long ago were moving toward their fulfillment in Jesus Christ. In Acts 3, Peter reminds the people of God's covenant with Abraham and explains that God sent His servant Jesus to bless them by turning them away from their wickedness. The blessing God promised was more than prosperity, land, or descendants. It was ultimately the blessing of redemption and a restored relationship with God.

There is also a powerful connection between Isaac and Jesus. Isaac was Abraham's beloved son, and God provided a substitute so that Isaac would live. Centuries later, God would give His own beloved Son, Jesus, who willingly gave His life for the salvation of the world. Isaac's story points us toward the greater story of God's love and provision. The God who provided a sacrifice for Abraham would one day provide the Savior for us all.

Advent reminds us that God's promises sometimes unfold through long seasons of waiting, uncertainty, and even testing. Abraham could not have imagined how God would fulfill His promise through future generations. Yet God was faithful. When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, the world witnessed another extraordinary expression of that faithfulness. The promised Son had come, bringing the blessing of salvation to all who would receive Him.

Reflection Questions

1. What does Abraham’s experience in Genesis 22 teach us about trusting God’s promises, especially when His plans are difficult to understand?

2. Why is it significant that Matthew traces Jesus' family line through Abraham and Isaac? How does Acts 3 help us understand the blessing God promised?

3. What connections do you see between God's provision of a sacrifice in Isaac's place and His gift of Jesus Christ for the salvation of the world?

4. Are there areas in my life where I struggle to trust God because His promises seem delayed or His plans are unclear?

5. As I prepare for Christmas, how does remembering God's faithfulness to Abraham encourage me to trust Him more deeply and respond to His love with obedience?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for being faithful to Your promises, even when we cannot understand how You will fulfill them. Just as You provided for Abraham and Isaac, You have provided for us through the gift of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Teach me to trust You in seasons of waiting and uncertainty. Help me to surrender the things I hold tightly and remember that Your plans are always greater than what I can see. As I prepare my heart for Christmas, fill me with gratitude for the Savior You have given and strengthen my faith to follow You wherever You lead. Amen.

DAY 4 | A King from Judah

PROMISE Genesis 49:8–10

FULFILLMENT Revelation 5:5; Luke 3:33

Background

Near the end of his life, Jacob gathers his sons to speak over their futures. When he comes to Judah, he declares something remarkable: the scepter, a symbol of royal authority, will not depart from Judah, and the obedience of the nations will belong to him. This is more than a father's blessing. It is a glimpse of God's unfolding plan. From Judah's family line would come kings, including David, and ultimately a King whose reign would extend far beyond Israel.

Centuries later, Luke traces Jesus' ancestry through Judah, showing that Jesus belongs to the family line through which God promised a king. In Revelation 5:5, Jesus is called the 'Lion of the tribe of Judah,' the victorious King who has overcome. Yet the surprising thing about Jesus is how He wins His victory. The Lion is revealed as a Lamb who was slain. Jesus conquers not through violence or earthly power, but through His sacrificial love.

Advent reminds us that the child born in Bethlehem is more than a baby in a manger. He is the promised King, whose kingdom is unlike any earthly kingdom. While human rulers rise and fall, His reign endures forever. He invites us not simply to admire Him, but to trust Him and surrender our lives to His loving rule.

Reflection Questions

1. What does Jacob's blessing over Judah reveal about God's unfolding plan to bring a King into the world?
2. Why is it significant that Jesus is called both the Lion of Judah and the Lamb who was slain?
3. How is Jesus' way of ruling different from the way power and authority are often exercised in our world?
4. What areas of my life do I find most difficult to surrender to Jesus' leadership?
5. As I prepare for Christmas, what would it look like to welcome Jesus not only as my Savior, but also as the King of my life?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for sending Jesus, the promised King from the tribe of Judah. His kingdom is built not on earthly power, but on love, grace, and sacrifice. Forgive me for the times I try to rule my own life instead of trusting Him. As I prepare for Christmas, help me surrender more fully to His leadership and reflect His love in the way I live. May Jesus reign in my heart today and always. Amen.

DAY 5 | A Prophet Like Moses

PROMISE Deuteronomy 18:15–19

FULFILLMENT Acts 3:20–23

Background

As Moses prepares the Israelites to enter the Promised Land, he reminds them that God will continue to guide His people even after he is gone. Moses had been their leader, delivering God's words, leading them out of slavery, and teaching them how to live as His people. But Moses would not be with them forever. So God makes a promise: He will raise up a prophet like Moses from among them, and the people must listen to him.

Throughout Israel's history, God raised up prophets to speak His truth and call His people back to faithfulness. Yet the promise also pointed forward to someone greater. In Acts 3, Peter identifies Jesus as the fulfillment of Moses' words. Like Moses, Jesus came to reveal God's will and lead His people into freedom. But Jesus is greater than Moses because He doesn't simply deliver God's message—He is God's Word made flesh. Through His life, death, and resurrection, Jesus brings a deeper deliverance, freeing us from the power of sin and inviting us into new life with God.

Advent reminds us that God has not left us to find our own way. He has spoken through His Son. The child born in Bethlehem came not only to save us, but also to show us how to live.

The question for us is whether we are willing to listen. Following Jesus begins with hearing His voice and trusting Him enough to obey.

Reflection Questions

1. Why do you think God promised to raise up a prophet like Moses to lead His people?
2. What similarities do you see between Moses and Jesus? In what ways is Jesus greater?
3. Why is listening to Jesus just as important as believing in Him?
4. What voices or distractions in my life sometimes make it difficult for me to hear and follow Jesus?
5. As I prepare for Christmas, what is one area of my life where I need to listen more closely to Jesus and respond in obedience?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for sending Jesus, the One who reveals Your heart and leads us into life. Forgive me for the times I listen to other voices more than Yours. As I prepare for Christmas, quiet my heart and help me hear what Jesus is teaching me. Give me the courage to trust His words and follow His ways, even when obedience is difficult. May my life reflect the One You have sent. Amen.

DAY 6 | A Son from David’s Line

PROMISE 2 Samuel 7:8-16

FULFILLMENT Luke 1:30-33

Background

King David had a desire to build a temple for God, a permanent place where His presence could dwell among His people. But God responds with an unexpected promise. Instead of David building a house for God, God promises to establish a “house” for David—a royal family line that would endure. God declares that one of David's descendants will succeed him and that his throne will be established forever.

At first, this promise finds fulfillment in David's son Solomon, who becomes king and builds the temple. But Solomon's reign eventually ends, and generations later, the kingdom falls apart. Israel's kings fail, the nation experiences exile, and David's throne appears to be lost. Yet God's promise remains. The people continue waiting for a King who will restore what has been broken.

Centuries later, an angel appears to a young woman named Mary with extraordinary news. She will give birth to a son named Jesus, and God will give Him the throne of His father David. The angel declares, “His kingdom will never end.” What God promised to David centuries earlier is now being fulfilled through Jesus. Unlike the kings before Him, Jesus will reign forever. His kingdom is not built on earthly power, but on

righteousness, love, and peace.

Advent reminds us that God's promises do not expire, even when circumstances make them seem impossible. The child born in Bethlehem is the promised Son of David, the King whose reign will never end. And because His kingdom is everlasting, we can place our hope in something far greater than the temporary kingdoms and uncertainties of this world.

Reflection Questions

1. What does God's promise to David reveal about His faithfulness and His plans for His people?
2. How does the angel's announcement to Mary in Luke 1 connect to the promise God made to David?
3. Why is it significant that Jesus' kingdom will never end, especially when earthly kingdoms and leaders come and go?
4. Where in my life am I placing my hope in things that are temporary rather than in the lasting promises of God?
5. As I prepare for Christmas, what would it look like to live with greater confidence in Jesus as my eternal King?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for being faithful to Your promises through every generation. Even when circumstances seem uncertain, Your plans remain steadfast. Thank You for sending Jesus, the promised Son of David, whose kingdom will never

end. Help me place my hope not in the temporary things of this world, but in Your eternal faithfulness. As I prepare for Christmas, teach me to trust Your promises and live each day under the loving reign of Jesus. Amen.



DAY 7 | The Righteous King

PROMISE Psalm 72:1–7, 17–19

FULFILLMENT Matthew 2:1–11

Background

Psalm 72 is a prayer for Israel's king, traditionally associated with Solomon. It describes the kind of ruler God's people longed for—one who governs with righteousness, defends the poor, delivers the needy, and brings peace and justice to the land. But the psalm looks beyond the reign of any ordinary king. It envisions a ruler whose name endures forever and through whom all nations will be blessed. It is a picture of the kind of King the world desperately needs.

Centuries later, Matthew tells the story of wise men traveling from the east, searching for the newborn King of the Jews. These visitors from another nation come bearing gifts and bow down in worship before Jesus. Their arrival echoes the vision of Psalm 72, where foreign kings bring gifts and nations honor the righteous King. Yet the contrast is striking. Jesus is not born in a palace surrounded by wealth and power. He enters the world in humility, while King Herod, threatened by His arrival, seeks to protect his own throne.

Advent reminds us that Jesus is the King who rules differently. While earthly rulers often seek power for themselves, Jesus uses His power to serve, restore, and save. His kingdom is marked by righteousness, compassion, justice, and peace. The

wise men recognized something extraordinary in this child and responded with worship. Their example invites us to do the same—not simply to celebrate Jesus' birth, but to welcome His reign into our lives.

Reflection Questions

1. What qualities of a righteous king stand out to you in Psalm 72? Why are these qualities important?
2. How does the visit of the wise men in Matthew 2 reflect the vision of nations honoring the King in Psalm 72?
3. How does Jesus' example of leadership challenge the way our world often understands power and authority?
4. Where in my life do I need to reflect more of Jesus' righteousness, compassion, and concern for others?
5. As I prepare for Christmas, how can I move beyond simply celebrating Jesus' birth to genuinely honoring Him as King in the way I live?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for sending Jesus, the righteous King who brings hope, justice, and peace. In a world where power is often used for selfish purposes, remind me that Your kingdom is built on love and righteousness. Help me follow the example of Jesus by showing compassion, defending those in need, and living with humility. As I prepare for Christmas, may

my heart be filled with worship, and may my life reflect the goodness of my King. Amen.



WEEK 1 • ADVENT JOURNAL

A Place to Reflect

As you've read, prayed, and reflected on God's Word this week,
take some time to notice what God is stirring in your heart.

NOTICE

What stood out to you from this week's readings?

RESPOND

How is God speaking to you through what you've read?

LIVE IT

What is one way you sense God inviting you to trust, obey, or align your life with what He's shown you?



THE STORY CONTINUES...

Thank you for joining us for Week 1 of Rooted Advent!

From the first promise in Eden to the hope of a righteous King, we have seen how God faithfully prepared the way for Jesus Christ.

LOOK FOR WEEK 2

Watch for the second week of our Advent readings as we continue discovering God’s promises and their fulfillment in Jesus.

Keep reading. Keep reflecting. Keep turning your heart toward Jesus.

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